

**From:** [Schaub, Mike](#)  
**To:** [Amy Trahan \(amy\\_trahan@fws.gov\)](#); [Sikes, Monica](#)  
**Subject:** eastern LMRAP info, etc.  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 2, 2019 3:31:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Eastern LMRAP UAA FINAL merged.pdf](#)

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Hi Amy and Monica,

I just realized that I never sent you all something that I had committed to sending in our last conversation back in May. Attached is the rationale document sent to us by LDEQ in support of the criteria change in the eastern LMRAP ecoregion subsegments. This document served as the technical basis for the DO criteria eventually approved by EPA. It may be more than you wish to know, but it will perhaps provide some additional background as to how the state formulated their new criteria. One additional thing to note (that is not in this document) is that DO criteria are assessed by the state by determining the proportion of ambient DO measurements collected in a given water body are below the criteria. If >10% of these measurements exceed (are below) the criteria over that 4-year period of record, a water body is considered impaired and placed on the state's impaired waters list (303(d) list) for eventual total maximum daily load (TMDL) development. Hope you find it helpful if you have time to look it over.

On another note, could you send me the BE that I understand was recently reviewed by FWS for an action being proposed in Lake Pontchartrain? I may be mischaracterizing the focus of that BE somewhat, but I believe Amy said she had recently looked at it and that was where she had seen a discussion of the effects of low DO on the benthic food sources of Gulf sturgeon. I think that would be a helpful document for our review.

Also, please let me know of a good time for us to have a call with your mussel expert that Monica mentioned toward the end of our call in May. We're very interested in her thinking on the proposed criteria on the heelsplitter and/or similar mussel species.

Finally, Amy, did you receive the Wilson/Bradley Sloughs informal consultation letter from us that was addressed to Joseph Ranson? Hopefully it made it to you late last week or in the last couple of days!

Thanks so much!

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